

# **FACT SHEET**

## **AB 1507 (Assemblymember Block):**

### **Chrome Metal Plating Facilities Grants**

**Summary:** AB 1507 recasts the provisions of the Metal Plating Facility Loan Guarantee Program into a grant program to provide an incentive for small businesses to join the Model Shop Program and assists metal plating facilities in upgrading, replacing and purchasing high performance environmental and pollution control equipment and technology, enabling the facility to comply with updated regulatory standards.

**Problem:** Despite the good work developing, implementing, and promoting the program, no metal finishing businesses have joined the Model Shop Program nor have any utilized the Loan Guarantee Program. This is due in part to updated regulatory standards and in part for lack of incentive that would make the program more enticing than traditional business loans.

**Solution:** AB 1507 converts the current loan guarantee program into incentive rebates for metal finishers looking to reduce the amount of pollution produced by metal finishing facilities and protect the health and safety of employees and the surrounding community. Providing a rebate will reward the industry leaders instituting a Model Shop Program, promoting cleaner environmental practices

**Background:**

***Metal Plating Facility Loan Guarantee Program:*** Established by AB 721 (Núñez) in 2005, the Metal Plating Facility Loan Guarantee Program directed the Business, Transportation & Housing Agency to launch loan guarantee program to help small metal plating businesses purchase equipment and update facilities that meet or exceed environmental regulations. In developing the program, the agency collaborated with the Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC), the Air Resources Board (ARB), and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). AB 721 further created the Chrome Plating Pollution Prevention Fund from the now defunct Hazardous Waste Reduction Loan Guarantee Program to be used to back the loan guarantee program development and cover administrative costs.

***Program Status:*** BT&H has established the program with the state's Financial Development Corporations (FDC's), and DTSC has implemented the Metal Finishing Model Shop Program. DTSC and BT&H have also worked with the metal finishing industry to promote the program, expand website information, and provide informational links between BTH and industry association websites.

**For More Information:**

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